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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,087	09/09/2003	John A. Underwood	60013056-2	1405

7590 03/19/2004

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

DUDDING, ALFRED E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2853

DATE MAILED: 03/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/658,087

Applicant(s)

UNDERWOOD, JOHN A.

Examiner

Alfred E. Dudding

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15 -36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/9/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Page 8 of the claims cites two claims with the claim number 32. Misnumbered claims 32 – 35 have been renumbered 33 – 36.

Double Patenting

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

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Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

3. Claims 15 - 36 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,659,582 B2 (Underwood) in view of Kurabayashi (U.S. 6,341,855 B1).

Underwood discloses that the application cites an apparatus for improving the print quality of a print job having black content, the black content having a predetermined location on a print medium, claim 1, Column 1, lines 10 and 11, the apparatus capable of performing the method by fortifying the black content by applying a black dye based ink on the predetermined location; printing the black content by applying a black pigment based ink on the predetermined location, claim 1, lines 17 – 23. 22. Underwood discloses wherein fortifying further comprises applying the black dye based ink on the predetermined location in an essentially uniform, partial density pattern, claim 1, Column 1, lines 23, 24 and Column 2, lines 1- 3. Underwood teaches that fortifying further comprises applying a sufficient quantity of the black dye based ink to essentially completely cover the predetermined location, claim 1, Column 8, lines 4 – 6.

Underwood discloses that the processing system (apparatus) is further configured to determine when the print medium is incompatible with the black pigment based ink and to control the second printhead to omit the firing of droplets on the predetermined location when the print medium is incompatible with the black pigment based ink, claim 1, Column 8, lines 6 n- 9. Underwood discloses that interface configured to receive a selected print mode, the user interface being configured to communicate with the processing system, wherein the processing

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system is further configured to determine when the print medium is incompatible with the black pigment based ink based on the selected print mode, claim 2, Column 8, lines 10 – 17.

Underwood teaches that a media detector configured to detect a print medium type, the media detector being configured to communicate with the processing system, wherein the processing system is further configured to determine whether the print medium is incompatible with pigment based ink based on the print medium type, Figure 3, element 302 (media detector).

Underwood fails to teach the claimed invention wherein fortifying comprises applying the black dye based ink on an edge of the predetermined location.

Kurabayashi teaches that the dye based ink and a pigment based ink overlap (applying to an edge) on the medium, claim 1, lines 14 – 17.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the method of Kurabayashi in applying ink to an edge with the apparatus of Underwood in order to produce increased image density, tone, and gradation range.



Stephen D. Meter
Primary Examiner

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Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alfred Dudding whose telephone number is (571) 272-2144. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier, AU 2853, can be reached at (571) 272 - 2149. The fax phone number for this Group is are (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Alfred Dudding

aw

3/3/04


Stephen D. Meier
Primary Examiner